

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-02

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O 100623 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3515

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 2760

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PINT, LA

SUBJECT: USINFO

USIA FOR IBS LAO SERVICE

1. IN VIENTIANE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE KING'S COUNCIL, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KAMMAO, HOSTED A FAREWELL DINNER MONDAY NIGHT FOR U. S. AMBASSADOR G. MCMURTRIE GODLEY. THE DINNER WAS ATTENDED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE KING'S COUNCIL, SEVERAL DEPUTIES OF THE LAO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND A NUMBER OF SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY.

2. AMBASSADOR GODLEY, WHO SERVED IN LAOS FOR OVER THREE AND A HALF YEARS, HAS BEEN NAMED BY PRESIDENT NIXON TO THE POST OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS, REPLACING MARSHALL GREEN, NAMED AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA.

3. IN HIS SPEECH DURING DINNER, PRINCE KAMMAO PRAISED AMBASSADOR GODLEY'S DIPLOMATIC TALENTS DISPLAYED DURING HIS SERVICE IN LAOS. "YOUR NEW ASSIGNMENT," SAID THE PRINCE, "TESTIFIES TO YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND CROWNS THEM."

4. THE PRESIDENT OF THE KING'S COUNCIL EXPRESSED DEEP GRATITUDE OF THE LAO PEOPLE FOR ALL THE MATERIAL AND MORAL ASSISTANCE THE UNITED

STATES HAD GIVEN LAOS AND FOR THE INSTRUMENTAL ROLE AMBASSADOR GODLEY PLAYED IN PROVIDING THIS AID. PRINCE KAMMAO ADDED THAT EVEN THOUGH LAO PEOPLE ARE SORRY TO SEE AMBASSADOR GODLEY LEAVE, THEY ARE CONFORTEED BY A THOUGHT THAT LAOS WILL HAVE A FRIEND IN WASH-
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INGTON WHO UNDERSTANDS LAO PROBLEMS.

5. IN HIS REPLY AMBASSADOR GODLEY SAID THAT HE FOUND HIS TOUR IN LAOS AND HIS ASSOCIATION WITH THE LAO PEOPLE VERY REWARDING. SPEAKING OF HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE HE WILL HAVE A LARGER GEOGRAPHICAL RESPONSIBILITY, HE STILL WILL BE ABLE TO PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE NEEDS OF LAOS FOR PEACE AND PROSPERITY.
GILDEA

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